



RIVER TERRACE RESTORATION

WHY IS THERE RESTORATION ALONG THE BANKS OF THE MERCED RIVER?

Sections of the Merced River are rapidly eroding and in need of care, primarily due to inadequate bridges and increased visitor use. In some areas, the river has widened an additional 60 feet—just in the last 80 years. This has damaged the riparian plant community which has effected the stability of the riverbanks and reduced habitat for fish and aquatic invertebrates.

HOW WILL THE RIVERBANKS BE RESTORED?

- The soil will be de-compacted
- The area will be mulched, seeded and planted with native vegetation
- Fencing will be used to help protect the restoration area from further trampling

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP PROTECT THE RIVER?

- Stay out of restoration areas
- Walk on durable surfaces such as gravel and sand
- To access the river, choose a sandy beach or gravel bar (such as areas by Housekeeping Bridge)
- Pack out all litter
- Leave no Trace

AN EXAMPLE OF A RIVERBANK THAT HAS GONE FROM BEING HEALTHY AND STABLE TO RAPIDLY ERODING AWAY

CIRCA 1860s:

A natural riverbank with lush riparian vegetation



1961:

By 1961, the river had widened dramatically



THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR PART TO HELP PROTECT THE RIVER!

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